



News Release

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Bottled-water advisory ends for Spokane County Raceway

OLYMPIA — The bottled-water advisory issued last week for Spokane County Raceway is over.

The state Department of Health issued the advisory because *E. coli* was detected during routine testing of the facility's tap water. *E. coli* are bacteria that live in the intestines of people and animals. Although most strains are harmless, several produce toxins that can cause diarrhea. One particular *E. coli* strain called O157:H7 can cause severe diarrhea and kidney damage.

Agency staff inspected the water system this week. They provided recommendations for improved water sampling procedures and learned that the water chlorinator had not been operating correctly. It has now been repaired. The system has been disinfected, and tests show the water now meets federal drinking water standards.

The Spokane Regional Health District has had no confirmed reports of *E. coli*-related illness.

“We appreciate the cooperation of the county, raceway staff, and local health authorities,” said Dorothy Tibbetts, manager of the state Office of Drinking Water's eastern regional operations.

“We realize that health advisories can be inconvenient, especially when you're planning for large crowds; protecting the health of those people is the priority.”

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Visit the Washington Department of Health website at <http://www.doh.wa.gov> for a healthy dose of information.